

REMARKS

This paper responds to the Office Action mailed on January 24, 2007.

None of the claims are amended, canceled, or added. Claims 1-56 remain pending in this application.

§102 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 28-38 and 40-50 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) for anticipation by Keeth et al. (U.S. 6,807,613, hereinafter referred to as Keeth).

Applicant respectfully traverses for at least the reasons presented below.

Applicant believes that independent claim 28 is not anticipated by Keeth because Applicant is unable to find in Keeth everything recited in claim 28. For example, Applicant is unable to find in Keeth the things recited in claim 28 such as "setting a latency time interval for outputting memory data at a data line", "outputting a conditioning data to the data line during the latency time interval", and "outputting the memory data to the data line after the latency time".

The Office Action, page 3, compares time interval T1 to T2 of FIG. 4 of Keeth to "setting a latency time interval for outputting memory data at a data line" of claim 28. However, as described by Keeth in col. 1 lines 51-54, time interval T1 to T2 is a *write* latency time in which a memory device (e.g., memory device 202 in FIG. 1) of Keeth waits to *accept* (not to *output*) write data at data lines (e.g., lines 101 of memory device 202 in FIG. 1). In contrast, claim 28 recites setting a latency time interval for "outputting" memory data at a data line.

The Office Action, page 3, compares a time interval WL in FIG. 4 of Keeth to "outputting a conditioning data to the data line during the latency time interval". However, Keeth teaches in col. 1 lines 33-40 that WL is a write latency *time* (not conditioning *data*). In contrast, claim 28 recites "conditioning data". Thus, Applicant believes that conditioning "data" is missing from Keeth. Further, even if a conditioning data can somehow appear in Keeth, FIG. 4 of Keeth does not show any data being outputted on *data lines* (labeled "DATA" in FIG. 4) of Keeth *during* latency time T2 (or WL). In contrast, claim 28 recites outputting a conditioning data to the data line "during" the latency time interval.

The Office Action, page 3, compares the data (DATA) in FIG. 4 of Keeth to "outputting the memory data to the data line after the latency time". However, Keeth teaches in col. 1 line

54 that the data "DATA" in FIG. 4 of Keeth is *write* data at data lines (e.g., data lines 101 in FIG. 1) in which a memory device (e.g., memory device 202 in FIG. 1) of Keeth *accepts* (does not *output*) the write data. In contrast claim 28 recites "outputting" the memory data to the data line after the latency time.

The reasons presented above demonstrate that claim 28 is not anticipated by Keeth. Accordingly, Applicant requests reconsideration, withdrawal of the rejection, and allowance of claim 28. Dependent claims 29-36 depend from claim 28 and recite the things of claim 28. Thus, Applicant believes that claims 29-36 are not anticipated by Keeth for at least the reasons presented above regarding claim 28, plus the additional things recited in claims 29-36. Accordingly, Applicant requests reconsideration, withdrawal of the rejection, and allowance of claims 29-36.

Applicant believes that independent claim 37 is not anticipated by Keeth because Applicant is unable to find in Keeth everything recited in claim 37. For example, Applicant is unable to find in Keeth the things recited in claim 37 such as "transferring a conditioning bit from a conditioning data storage unit to a data line at a first signal transition of the strobe signal after the command signal is issued" and "transferring the memory data from the memory array to the data line after the transferring of the conditioning bit".

The Office Action, page 4, cites FIG. 6 and col. 4 lines 23-40 of Keeth to reject "transferring a conditioning bit from a conditioning data storage unit to a data line at a first signal transition of the strobe signal after the command signal is issued" of claim 1. FIG. 6 of Keeth shows elements such as data "DATA" and strobe signal STROBE and col. 4 lines 23-40 of Keeth describes a data strobe signal. Applicant is unable to find in FIG. 6 and col. 4 lines 23-40 of Keeth a teaching or fair suggestion of the things recited in claim 37 such as "transferring a conditioning bit from a conditioning data storage unit to a data line at a first signal transition of the strobe signal after the command signal is issued".

The Office Action, page 4, compare the data "DATA" in FIG. 6 of Keeth to the memory data of claim 37. However, Keeth teaches in col. 5 lines 5-8 that the data "DATA" as shown in FIG. 6 will be written *to* (not data from) a memory array (e.g., memory array 611 of memory device 202 of FIG. 3) of Keeth. In contrast, claim 37 recites transferring the memory data "from the memory array to the data line" after the transferring of the conditioning bit.

The reasons presented above demonstrate that claim 37 is not anticipated by Keeth. Accordingly, Applicant requests reconsideration, withdrawal of the rejection, and allowance of claim 37. Dependent claims 38 and 40 depend from claim 37 and recite the things of claim 37. Thus, Applicant believes that claims 38 and 40 are not anticipated by Keeth for at least the reasons presented above regarding claim 37, plus the additional things recited in claims 38 and 40. Accordingly, Applicant requests reconsideration, withdrawal of the rejection, and allowance of claims 38 and 40.

Applicant believes that independent claim 41 is not anticipated by Keeth because Applicant is unable to find in Keeth everything recited in claim 41. For example, for at least the reasons presented above regarding claim 37, Applicant is unable to find in Keeth the things recited in claim 41 such as "transferring a conditioning data from a conditioning data storage unit to a data line during a conditioning time interval after the command signal is issued" and "transferring a memory data from a memory array to the data line after the conditioning time interval". Accordingly, Applicant requests reconsideration, withdrawal of the rejection, and allowance of claim 41. Dependent claims 42-50 depend from claim 41 and recite the things of claim 41. Thus, Applicant believes that claims 42-50 are not anticipated by Keeth for at least the reasons presented above regarding claim 41, plus the additional things recited in claims 42-50. Accordingly, Applicant requests reconsideration, withdrawal of the rejection, and allowance of claims 42-50.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 39 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 39 depends from claim 37. In view of the reasons presented above regarding the patentability of claim 37, Applicant believes that claim 39 is now allowable in the dependent form.

Claims 1-27 and 51-56 were allowed. Applicant acknowledges the allowance of claims 1-27 and 51-56.

Reservation of Rights

In the interest of clarity and brevity, Applicant may not have addressed every assertion made in the Office Action. Applicant's silence regarding any such assertion does not constitute any admission or acquiescence. Applicant reserves all rights not exercised in connection with this response, such as the right to challenge or rebut any tacit or explicit characterization of any reference or of any of the present claims, the right to challenge or rebut any asserted factual or legal basis of any of the rejections, the right to swear behind any cited reference such as provided under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, or the right to assert co-ownership of any cited reference. Applicant does not admit that any of the cited references or any other references of record are relevant to the present claims, or that they constitute prior art. To the extent that any rejection or assertion is based upon the Examiner's personal knowledge, rather than any objective evidence of record as manifested by a cited prior art reference, Applicant timely objects to such reliance on Official Notice, and reserves all rights to request that the Examiner provide a reference or affidavit in support of such assertion, as required by MPEP § 2144.03. Applicant reserves all rights to pursue any cancelled claims in a subsequent patent application claiming the benefit of priority of the present patent application, and to request rejoinder of any withdrawn claim, as required by MPEP § 821.04.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance, and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney at (612) 373-6969 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

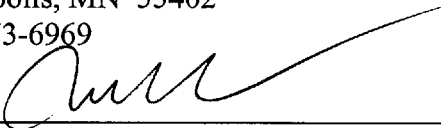
Respectfully submitted,

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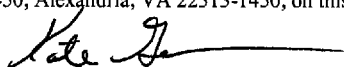
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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being filed using the USPTO's electronic filing system EFS-Web, and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 21 day of May, 2007.

Kate Gannon

Name



Signature